

AGENDA ITEM III A 1

PROPOSED ACADEMIC PROGRAM

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY-NEW ORLEANS

M.S. IN MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

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M. S. IN MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

STAFF SUMMARY

1. Description/Objectives

The proposal provides the following program description:

The M.S. in Management Information Systems (MIS) is an innovative master program that integrates information technology with business management. It is designed to provide students with a strong educational foundation preparing them as information system (IS) professionals. MS-MIS consists of a specially designed curriculum which emphasizes conceptual, analytical, technical and interpersonal skills. The program blends theory and practice into a learning experience that develops skills applicable to complex real-world problems. It is designed to give students a thorough knowledge of the field and to provide an enduring foundation for future professional growth. To be successful in the increasingly competitive, global marketplace, corporations are looking for employees that have comprehensive knowledge and training in both business management and information technology. MS-MIS delivers exactly that. The MIS Department which is housed at the College of Business has mission parallel to the business community demands.

Program objectives are also defined in the proposal:

The objective of the Program is to produce viable MS-MIS graduates. This objective will be accomplished by focusing on the technical expertise that a system-oriented manager needs to draw upon and the people management issues that go hand-in-hand with management information systems technology. As part of the latter, the Program will emphasize on management culture and organizational environment that affects the productive functioning of information systems managers.

The MS-MIS Program at SUNO will prepare students for hands on use and management responsibility in all phases of information systems: planning, analysis, design, implementation, sustainment, evolution and policy. Students will learn the technological and managerial expertise to:

Evaluate, choose and use state-of-the-art application development tools and technologies to build information systems.

Assess, plan, and execute the dissemination of information technology in an organization

Lead professional teams in developing information solutions to organizational problems.

Analyze and document the information requirements of an organization.

Develop organizational information strategies to meet the present and future information processing and communication needs of large or small entities.

Require students to evaluate ethical issues related to information systems, work productivity, and human factors.

For students considering a particular specialization or advanced graduate studies. SUNO will provide a formal academic track that includes completing a Directed Research Program (Capstone) that focuses on a specific research issue.

2. Curriculum

The program will require the completion of 36 semester hours for graduation, divided into associated subject areas as follows:

Core (9 Hrs)

| | | |
|-----------------|---|----------|
| <i>MISM 501</i> | <i>Advanced Application Development Techniques</i> | <i>3</i> |
| <i>MISM 502</i> | <i>Financial Management of Electronic Commerce*</i> | <i>3</i> |
| <i>MISM 503</i> | <i>Supply Chain Systems*</i> | <i>3</i> |

Management Approaches and Strategies (9 Hrs)

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| <i>MISM 506</i> | <i>Applied Marketing*</i> | <i>3</i> |
| <i>MISM 633</i> | <i>Applied Project Management</i> | <i>3</i> |
| <i>MISM 603</i> | <i>System Analysis and Design</i> | <i>3</i> |

Technological Infrastructure (12 Hrs)

| | | |
|-----------------|--|----------|
| <i>MISM 660</i> | <i>Advanced Database Management</i> | <i>3</i> |
| <i>MISM 604</i> | <i>Electronic Commerce</i> | <i>3</i> |
| <i>MISM 605</i> | <i>Web Site Design and Management</i> | <i>3</i> |
| <i>MISM 650</i> | <i>Advanced Data Communication Systems</i> | <i>3</i> |
| <i>MISM 698</i> | <i>Directed Research Project in MIS</i> | <i>3</i> |

Elective (3 Hrs)

| | | |
|-----------------|--|----------|
| <i>MISM 504</i> | <i>Applied Economics for Information Managers*</i> | <i>3</i> |
| <i>MISM 671</i> | <i>Business Intelligence</i> | <i>3</i> |
| <i>MISM 685</i> | <i>Information Security Foundations</i> | <i>3</i> |

Total

36 hours

****New Courses***

The year-by-year suggested sequence of courses is as follows:

FIRST YEAR

FALL

*MISM 501 -Advanced Application
Development Techniques*
MISM Financial Mgt E-Commerce
MISM 605 - Web Design/Mgt.

SPRING

MISM 503 - Supply Chain Analysis
MISM 603 - System Anal./Design
MISM 506 - Applied Marketing

SECOND YEAR

FALL

*MISM 633 - Appl. Project Mgt.
MISM 660 - Adv. Database Mgt
MISM 604 - Intro. E-Commerce*

SPRING

*MISM 650 - Adv. Data Comm. Syst.
MISM xxx - Elective
MISM 698 - Directed Research*

With specific regard to meeting curricular accreditation requirements of the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), the University observed:

The technical education component of the curriculum addresses the learning experiences in information technology and skill areas while the Business Core and Courses in the Major address the learning experiences in management-specific knowledge and skills.

3. Students

The proposal states the following regarding projected enrollments/graduates:

Projected enrollments are shown in the table below. As the program will build upon the currently existing and newly acquired MIS resources (faculty, labs, etc.—projections in other Sections, below), only within a limited range of flexibility as to expandability (class size) and utilization (for hardware/software) of the existing resources, can MS-MIS enrollment capacity greatly exceed what is projected, in the table and below, without additional financing. To the extent that the undergraduate faculty and facilities are strengthened in this same period, that flexibility may be increased. However, in general, the amount by which capacity can exceed projections is to some extent constricted without additional funding.

| Year | Headcount/FTE | Growth Rate | Number of Graduates |
|------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 2006-2007 | 15/10 | 0 | 0 |
| 2007-2008 | 21/12 | 40% | 6 |
| 2008-2009 | 29/18 | 40% | 8 |
| 2009-2010 | 35/22 | 20% | 10 |
| 2010-2011 | 42/29 | 20% | 10 |
| 2011-2012 | 50/34 | 20% | 12 |
| 2012-2013 | 60/40 | 20% | 12 |
| 2013-2014 | 72/48 | 20% | 15 |

Before Katrina, more than 150 students were enrolled in the Computer Information Systems (CIS) program when total enrollment at the university was approximately 3,700. (Enrollment is at 2,050 during the spring of 2006. Thus the post-Katrina enrollment is about 55% of the pre-Katrina enrollment.) While some will finish under the older program, it is projected that in 2006-2007 approximately 20 will choose the new MIS

major (plus there will be some new recruits). Making the assumption that in subsequent years through 2014, the program enrollment will grow by 40% and by 20% per year, the headcount is as projected in column 2 of the above table. The number after the slash is the estimated full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment that was calculated by taking two-thirds of the headcount enrollment. The increase each year is attributable to two factors: (1) increase in enrollment associated with recovery after Katrina, and (2) promotion/success of the program.

The Masters degree is expected to draw students from SUNO's undergraduate MIS students and from other local colleges and universities as well as from national as well as international students. Potential student enrollments for the MS-MIS are included in Table 1 and justification of the figures follows. Part of the justification centers on undergraduate enrollments and graduates. At present SUNO offers four-year Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems. In addition, to entering freshmen, there are two-year graduates from Delgado College coming to SUNO to complete a four-year degree. (No other public university in the New Orleans region offers four-year MIS and the demand for such graduates is increasing as the economy in the area starts to recover.) Therefore, the number of undergraduate majors and graduates is expected to continue to increase.

As SUNO graduates are placed, joining those professionals already working in the field, there is a growing demand from both groups for additional training beyond the Bachelors Degree. Tulane University and Xavier are also producing and placing CIS undergraduates in this area, but no degree-granting graduate level training to update skills and gain new ones is available. This is a special problem in the computer field as it is changing quickly and ongoing training is very much needed. The field is also maturing and exhibiting increasing credential consciousness, with more and more companies requiring graduate degrees, as well as experience, in order to advance.

Starting with the 10 FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) students in the first year (2006-2007), enrollments in the MS-MIS are projected to grow to 40 FTE in the seventh year. (See Table 1.) In general, FTE, rather than student headcount, is expected to be the most illuminating parameter and projection technique for the MS-MIS, because, as cited in earlier Sections, the majority of the students are expected to maintain or undertake employment in the New Orleans Computer community during their graduate careers and attend SUNO on a part-time basis. Interest in the New Orleans work force for a "management information credential", as well as for the opportunity to learn state-of-the-art computer technologies, is expected to be high. Much of the initial recruiting for the Program will target this working group through professional meetings and the employing organizations. Because of (1) the part-time nature of many students, (2) what is expected to be a limited (or zero) number of summer offerings, and (3) some non-completers, graduation rates are expected to trail enrollment growth. It is possible to graduate as early as the end of the second year (May, 2008), with the numbers increasing for each subsequent May, as a function of the accuracy of the enrollment projections (Again, See Table 1).

The proposal states the following regarding student admission requirements:

Students will be required to satisfy the University, College of Business, and School of Graduate Studies' requirements. These requirements include passing foundation courses (Principles of Accounting I & II, Principles of Management, Finance, and Marketing) with GPA 3.0 or higher for those who have no business background, having a GRE score of at least 1200 or GMAT score of 500, and competency in writing.

4. Faculty

The proposal indicates the following regarding current faculty resources:

The present faculty consists of Chairperson and two faculty members. In year two, it will be important that two additional full-time faculty member to be added.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Name | David Alijani | Wendy Zhang | Samuel Eweni |
| Date of Appointment | 08/10/1995 | 07/01/1985 | 08/22/1988 |
| Rank | Professor | Associate Professor | Assistant Professor |
| Degree/Field | PhD/Computer Science | PhD/Computer Science | MBA, MS Computer Science |
| Degree Granting Institution | Wayne State University | University of Houston | East Texas State University, Southern U. Baton Rouge |
| Present Credit Hours | 18 | 15 | 12 |
| Contact Hours | 12/week and 2 online classes | 9 /week and 2 online classes | 6/week and 2 online classes |
| Student Credit Hours Produced | 183 | 195 | 132 |
| Other Assignments | College and University Committees | College and University Committees | Acting Director of Graduate Program |

Mr. Samuel Eweni as of 1 June 2006 will not be responsible for the graduate program. He will thereafter teach undergraduate courses. The BS-MIS and MS-MIS are combined under one chairperson, currently Dr. Omar is the interim chair of the department.

The proposal projects additional faculty needs as follows:

In addition to the MIS chairperson plus two current teaching faculty members, two new faculty members will be recruited for the MS-MIS program and each will be full-time in the program. As per the SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) guidelines, all would be required to have a terminal degree in MIS, Computer Science, Management Information Systems (MIS), Analytical Methods, an application area, or a closely related field. As projected, except for release time and/or externally funded grant/research responsibilities, each graduate faculty member would eventually teach

three classes. In the early years of the Program and for the first years of each new faculty member, there would be reduced loads for course development, general curriculum development, recruitment, and advising. Loads would be reduced in latter years for capstone advisors and those assuming other academic and/or administrative responsibilities required advancing the MS-MIS.

Especially at the initial state, faculty quality and developmental enthusiasm are more critical than specific academic and/or research areas, as most terminally degreed personnel should have some expertise in each of the core areas. The faculty to be recruited should be people with a Ph. D. in MIS or DBA in a business area and with some training in MIS. Furthermore, given the fact that we are on the fast track for accreditation (must be achieved by 2011, the proposed full-time load of faculty is 6 credit hours per semester). This amounts to release time of 3 credit hours per semester so that faculty members may produce the intellectual contributions that are essential to achieving AACSB accreditation, retool for the new discipline, and develop all the components of the new program. The recruited faculty will teach Applied Marketing, Applied Economics for Information Managers, Supply Chain Systems, Financial Management of Electronic Commerce, E-commerce and other electives yet to be developed.

More specifically, two Assistant Professors are needed as described below:

Assistant Professor I

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Semester 1:</i> | <i>Semester 2:</i> |
| <i>MISM 502 Financial Management of Electronic Commerce</i> | <i>MISM 503 Supply Chain Systems</i> |
| <i>MISM 504 Applied Economics for Information Managers</i> | <i>MISM 506 Applied Marketing</i> |

Assistant Professor II

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Semester 1:</i> | <i>Semester 2:</i> |
| <i>MISM 503 Supply Chain Systems</i> | <i>MISM 502 Financial Management of Electronic Commerce</i> |
| <i>MISM 506 Applied Marketing</i> | <i>MISM 504 Applied Economics for Information Managers</i> |

Since faculty who are academically qualified by AACSB International standards are very high cost, the cost of recruiting and retaining such faculty members is considerably above the average for the university. And since this is a relatively new discipline, the scarcity is even greater than for business disciplines in general. It can be expected that the University will have to pay somewhere in the range of \$75,000 to \$90,000 for 9 months.

5. Library and Other Special Resources

The proposal provides the following regarding current library and other special resources:

Library holdings of hard copies of books and periodicals related to MIS are inadequate. Furthermore, post-Katrina, it has not yet been determined that any of the materials in the SUNO library on the South Campus are salvageable. If the materials are judged to be contaminated, all may be lost. However, the SUNO Library is currently a member of the Louisiana Library Network, a consortium of 28 colleges and universities in Louisiana with an ongoing agreement to share available library resources. The Xavier, Loyola, Tulane, and UNO Library holdings are accessible through the LOUIS system. Also, as part of the American Library Association Adopt-A-Library Katrina Relief Program, the University of Missouri-Columbia is one of several libraries that have adopted the SUNO Library. These libraries have created a gateway to free online resources referenced in their library's online catalog, including documents, sound recordings, maps, and more, in addition to books/journals. However, current library resources will eventually need to be replaced and updated.

In addition to receiving individual technical journals, the SUNO Library is currently a member of the ACM (Association for Computing Machinery), the principal international organization for computer professors and professionals. As part of this membership, the Library receives a number of general ACM publications. The Library also receives the more limited, current publication output of other computer/MIS organizations. In the past the library offerings have included subscriptions to several professional information services, but these services are extremely "pricey". With the approval/funding of the BS-MIS, selected professional services could be reactivated.

The proposal project needs for new/additional library resources as follows:

Initial library monies would be used to expand the scope of the Management Information Systems publications to include the full spectrum of general publications and to add the publication output of and membership in specific Management Information Systems-related special interest groups. Additional journals would be added as per the advice of the teaching faculty and course/research needs. In addition to online access, part of the library expenditures would be devoted to CD-ROM resources in both the SUNO Library and as part of the Management Information Systems departmental network. Some of the literature/developments in the Management Information Systems area are already available in CD-ROM form. These online/CD resources would be available at student workstations, in every faculty office and research area, and remotely via dial-in access. Full texts of the articles referenced on the research CDs would generally be available immediately from the CD or via network subscriptions and/or, in a day or two, through SUNO or through another node of the New Orleans Council for Academic Library Liaison. Students will have Internet access for resource utilization, as well as for other research/production needs, and general communication.

6. Facilities and Equipment

The proposal observes the following regarding program facilities:

Hurricane Katrina forced the university to be housed in temporary facilities on its North Campus. These facilities have fulfilled the essential services required by the existing programs. However, they are not adequate for the proposed program such as MS-MIS.

Due to the destruction of SUNO's south campus by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, research facilities are limited and additional resources will be needed to accommodate new undergraduate enrollment and faculty research needs. Projected equipment and research monies (See Section 10.) will be used primarily to provide:

*student computer access, via a graduate lab with multiple workstations of varying complexities,
faculty access by equipping faculty offices,
computer equipped classrooms, and
research areas and portable support for both student and faculty use.*

Some funding will be used to equip each of the MIS faculty with state-of-the-art computer equipment in their offices, linked to the MIS network, the campus, the SUNO mainframe, and the Internet. Several classrooms will be equipped with interactive overhead computer displays and one classroom will also have workstations for each student. Facilities and equipment expenditures are included as part of Costs.

7. Administration

The program will be administered through a new Department of Management Information Sciences within the College of Business, replacing the Department of Computer Information Sciences.

8. Support Staff

The proposal opines the need one support staff. It is unclear if this person will be an assistant assigned solely to the operations of this program or for the entire Department.

9. Accreditation

The proposal noted the following regarding program accreditation:

Since MIS is a business program, it is eligible for accreditation by The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International. Furthermore, the Louisiana Board of Regents has mandated that all state business programs achieve this accreditation. Therefore, the College will seek to achieve AACSB International accreditation by 2011. The College of Business was in the Pre-Candidacy Accreditation stage before Katrina and before the restructuring of the College of Business. None of the original programs (Accounting, Business Administration, and Computer Information Systems) remain. Because both our programs and mission have changed, the Accreditation Eligibility Application will be resubmitted.

To achieve accreditation by AACSB International, the College of Business will resubmit an Accreditation Eligibility Application with MIS included as one of the programs to be reviewed. Once our application has been accepted, a mentor will be assigned. (When the present process was initiated, Dean Otis Thomas of Morgan State University was assigned as our mentor. However, it is not clear that he would continue to be our mentor given our drastically changed circumstances/.mission.) Next, an accreditation plan will

be submitted. When the plan is accepted, the College will be in candidacy and would be reviewed for accreditation once the accreditation plan is fully implemented.

10. External Review

The proposal states the following regarding required external review of this program:

Three outside consultants have reviewed the MIS graduate program:

- a. Dr. Don Colton, Professor of Information Sciences, Brigham Young University-Hawaii. He is one of the current Chairs of ISECON, the country's largest continuously-running conference for IS Education. (Dr. Colton is also the Editor of a peer reviewed academic journal on IS Education: The Information Systems Education Journal.)*
- b. Dr. Maggie Margaret E. McClintock, Professor and Chair of Accounting and MIS for the College of Business, Mississippi University for Women. Dr. McClintock is also the Immediate-Past Chair of the Association of Business Information Systems.*
- c. Dr. Partow-Navid, Parviz, Chair and Professor of Information Systems of the College of Business and Economics, University of California-Los Angeles.*

All of the comments and suggestions recommended by three outside consultants are incorporated in this proposal.

The staff notes that Dr. McClintock comes from a university that is not AACSB accredited, nor does not offers a graduate-level MIS program. Hence, her comments, while possibly helpful, are not necessarily relevant.

11. Costs

The proposal provides the following summary of additional cost and budget justification:

| | <i>FIRST YEAR AMOUNT</i> | <i>FTE</i> | <i>SECOND YEAR AMOUNT</i> | <i>FTE</i> | <i>THIRD YEAR AMOUNT</i> | <i>FTE</i> | <i>FOURTH YEAR AMOUNT</i> | <i>FTE</i> |
|--|---|-------------------|--|-------------------|---|-------------------|--|-------------------|
| <i>Faculty</i> | <i>\$252,000</i> | <i>2.5</i> | <i>\$264,000</i> | <i>2.5</i> | <i>\$277,830</i> | <i>2.5</i> | <i>\$291,722</i> | <i>2.5</i> |
| <i>Graduate Assistants</i> | <i>33,000</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>34,650</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>36,382</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>38,201</i> | <i>2</i> |
| <i>Support Personnel</i> | <i>25,000</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>26,250</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>27,562</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>28,940</i> | <i>1</i> |
| <i>Fellowships & Scholarships</i> | <i>25,500</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>25,500</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>25,500</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>25,000</i> | <i>0</i> |
| <i>SUB-TOTAL</i> | <i>\$335,500</i> | <i>5.5</i> | <i>\$350,400</i> | <i>5.5</i> | <i>\$367,274</i> | <i>5.5</i> | <i>\$384,362</i> | <i>5.5</i> |

| | <i>AMOUNT</i> | <i>AMOUNT</i> | <i>AMOUNT</i> | <i>AMOUNT</i> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Facilities</i> | \$ 50,000 | \$25,000 | \$25,000 | \$25,000 |
| <i>Equipment</i> | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| <i>Travel</i> | 18,000 | 21,000 | 21,000 | 24,000 |
| <i>Supplies</i> | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| <i>Library Resources</i> | 25,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 15,000 |
| <i>SUB-TOTAL</i> | <i>\$113,000</i> | <i>\$107,500</i> | <i>\$109,075</i> | <i>\$108,729</i> |
| <i>GRAND TOTAL</i> | <i>\$448,500</i> | <i>\$457,900</i> | <i>\$476,349</i> | <i>\$493,091</i> |

| <i>Amount & Percentage of Total Anticipated From:</i> | <i>AMOUNT</i> | <i>%</i> | <i>AMOUNT</i> | <i>%</i> | <i>AMOUNT</i> | <i>%</i> | <i>AMOUNT</i> | <i>%</i> |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>State Appropriations</i> | \$448,500 | 100 | \$457,900 | 100 | \$418,849 | 100 | \$435,591 | 100 |
| <i>Federal Grants/Contracts</i> | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>State Grants/Contracts</i> | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Private Grants/Contracts</i> | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Other (specify)</i> | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>TOTAL</i> | <i>\$448,500</i> | <i>100</i> | <i>\$457,900</i> | <i>100</i> | <i>\$476,349</i> | <i>100</i> | <i>\$493,091</i> | <i>100</i> |

Costs

The two MS-MIS faculty needed are to hired as tenure-track Assistant Professors at an average salary of \$80,000, using the standard university fringe factor of 26%. An additional .5 equivalent was included for senior faculty salary adjustments , as they will be taking on expanded research, grant, training, and retooling duties.

Two graduate assistants will assist with the research, publishing, and grants required for the programs. An Administrative assistant is needed because our undergraduate administrative assistant has retired and the graduate program's administrative assistant was assigned to another department. There fore, we need one administrative assistant for both programs.

Funding is requests for scholarships and fellowships in order to recruit and retain qualified and diverse students. In order to ensure the MIS department's facilities are properly maintained and functioning, funding is needed to host hardware, store supplies, and needed software licences. Since there is not a sections for software in the budget form, we assume Supplies will include software...It is especially critical that a variety of state-of-the art packages are available to properly train the MIS managers of the future.

Over 75 working stations are needed for the two IS departmental computer labs. These labs would replace two completely equipped facilities that were virtually destroyed by Katrina. While some of the replacement costs may be eventually covered by insurance and FEMA, there is still a significant shortfall versus the state-of-the-art IS hardware/software in the networks before the storm. For maximum productivity/progress, it is important to secure the funds and purchase the needed hardware/software as soon as possible to smooth the transition back to the South Campus.

Income

Tuition income is estimated as \$56,000 in year one, \$75,600 in year two, increasing steadily to \$259,200 in year eight.

The MIS faculty has been extremely active in grant writing. Additional grant writing will also be a specific expectation of the two new faculty members. Although it is not possible to accurately project an exact figure for grant income in future years, a conservative projection of at least \$50,000 would be reasonable.

STAFF ANALYSIS

The staff commends the faculty and administration of SUNO for the development of a coherent and comprehensive proposal for a proposed new M.S. in Management Information Systems program. Yet, there remains much work to be done to ensure the appropriate implementation and development of this program, leading to AACSB accreditation by Fall, 2011. The following staff comments are, therefore, relevant:

1. The proposed curriculum appears appropriate and curricular recommendations/suggestions by external reviewers have been incorporated.
2. Expectations for two additional faculty are justified, however, there is no reason why the State should be expected to fund an additional .5 FTE to afford salary increase for existing faculty. Further, it is not clear that these two additional faculty should be considered wholly new positions. Without an accounting from the University as to the disposition of pre-Katrina faculty positions across now reduced program offerings, it would appear that some of those positions in terminated program areas could be moved to MIS to support this new venture.
3. The staff remains somewhat confused regarding staffing needs for both MIS programs at SUNO. The proposals for the B.S. and M.S. programs seems to either contradict or duplicate each others request. It would appear that one secretary and one lab assistant should suffice for both programs.
4. While graduate assistantships are needed and student scholarships a desirable incentive to attract high quality students, use of State funds for these purposes is inappropriate.

5. Facilities/equipment needs have also been stated, but without reference to or within the context of overall development of the new campus. It does not appear reasonable to finitely decide on facility/equipment needs for this program without considering how such needs would coordinate with similar requirements for all other SUNO programs and services.
6. Expectations for new library, supplies, and travel resources are reasonable, but there is no specific explanation for estimated costs.
7. While SUNO provided some vague estimates of tuition monies and grant income, these monies were not counted in the Revenue section of the proposed budget . There was also no effort by the University to estimate other likely sources of revenue (i.e., FEMA, state and private insurance reimbursements, etc.) Instead, the University plans that all such costs should be absorbed through enhanced state funding. This is neither appropriate nor likely.

Accordingly, while the staff recommends conditional approval for this program with implementation beginning Fall, 2006, a broad stipulation which ensures ongoing program implementation consistent with AACSB accreditation requirements, careful analysis and assessment of projected program costs, and the development of appropriate funding plans is needed.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee grant conditional approval for the proposed M.S. program in Management Information Systems (CIP Code 52.1299) at Southern University-New Orleans, beginning Fall 2006. Prior to program implementation, University administrators shall meet with Mr. Donnie Vandal, Deputy Commissioner for Finance and Administration, and Mr. Gerard Killebrew, Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs, to discuss immediate funding needs and sources of such funding for the first year of program operations. The primary foci of these discussions shall be resource issues directly related to required AACSB program accreditation and efforts by the University to afford such resources within existing state funding. Thereafter, beginning June 1, 2007 and on that same date until AACSB program accreditation has been achieved, an annual report addressing these concerns shall be sent to Mr. Vandal and Mr. Killebrew and necessary follow-up meetings scheduled to resolve any outstanding issues.